(c) whether there are any guidelines for issuing licences to zoos?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) There are 178 recognised zoos, 497 sanctuaries and 89 national parks in the country.

(b) and (c) The Central Zoo Authority is the nodal authority for granting recognition to zoos in the country. Recognition is granted by the authority after evaluation of the zoo with reference to standards and norms prescribed under the 'Recognition of Zoo Rules, 1992'.

Improvement of Environment in Gujarat

2162. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the projects undertaken for improvement of environment in Gujarat during the last two years;

(b) the extent of success achieved; and

(c) the details of other such projects to be undertaken in the State during the remaining period of Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Environmental clearance to Andhra Pradesh Proposal

2163. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONEMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of proposals sent by Andhra Pradesh Government for environmental and forest clearance;

(b) the present status of these proposal; and

(c) by when the clearance is likely to be given?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The details and status of 87 proposals received for forestry clearance from 1998 to June 2001 and 15 proposals received for environmental clearance during July, 1998 to